



McLean Area Branch AAUW of Virginia

News

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December Branch Meeting | Holiday Luncheon

Saturday, December 9, noon
River Bend Golf and Country Club
375 Walker Road, Great Falls, VA

Helene Cooper, our guest speaker at the annual Holiday Luncheon, is the **Pentagon correspondent for the New York Times**. She is a frequent guest on "Meet the Press" and the author of the **New York Times** bestseller, *The House at Sugar Beach: In Search of a Lost African Childhood, a memoir of growing up in Monrovia, Liberia*, as well as *Madame President: the Extraordinary Story of Ellen Johnson Sirleaf*. Ms. Cooper was part of the team that won the Pulitzer Prize for international reporting during the Ebola epidemic in Liberia. **Feel free to invite guests to hear this engaging woman with an extraordinary story and experiences.** Reservations are due to **Margie Broderick**, margiebroderick@aol.com, by December 1.



Helene Cooper, Pentagon correspondent, New York Times.

Message from the Presidents

Happy Holidays to all our members! We spent a very enjoyable evening getting to know six of our 11 newest members at a dinner for them. Please welcome our new branch members as well.

The Nominating Committee for the 2018-19 branch board officers will be elected at the December luncheon meeting. **If you would like to serve on the committee, let either of us know.** If you are called to take a board leadership position, we hope you'll say yes. Branch leadership is a fun way to get to know more about AAUW and its branch members. Past member leaders are always available to provide support and mentor new leaders. As a retired nurse and to keep board service in perspective, Betsy's motto is, "No one is bleeding. No one is dying." The jobs are important, but no one is making life or death decisions.

We look forward to seeing all of you at our Holiday Luncheon. Please send your reservation and check to **Margie Broderick** by December 1.

Aroona Borpujari and Betsy Schroeder, Co-Presidents

Branch Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 6, noon – 2:00 pm
McLean House, 6800 Fleetwood Road, McLean, VA

November Board Meeting Actions

- The Allocations Committee met on October 23 to determine distribution of the annual Used Book Sale proceeds, which were \$32,088. The Committee's recommendations were reviewed and approved for presentation to the Branch at the November 14 meeting. The Branch voted to accept the recommendation.
- The Board approved and updated the 2017-2020 Strategic Plan.
- The Nominating Committee will be filling several Board positions since many current Board members' terms will expire in June.
- The Membership Vice Presidents are asking Branch members to share contacts and leads to area organizations and businesses with whom we share mutual interests and who might be willing to support Branch programs.

Book Sale Funds Allocation

Through proceeds from the annual book sales, the McLean Area Branch has funded two endowed Fellowships and Grants.

- The McLean Area (VA) Branch (#1376) American Fellowship recipient is **Amaka Okechukwu** at George Mason University.
- The McLean Area (VA) Branch (#1825) International Fellowship recipient is **Nadine Hejazi**, of Jordan, at George Washington University.
- The McLean Area (VA) Branch #4267) Community Action Grant recipient, **Shannon Darroch**, is studying at the University of Virginia and a member of the Society of Women Engineers.
- The McLean Area 40th Anniversary (#4319) Career Development Grant recipient, **Myeshia Shelby**, is studying Genetics and Human Genetics at Howard University.



Naz Basit sent congratulatory letters to each of the Branch endowment recipients and has invited them to the March Business Meeting.

Elaine A. Lailas, AAUW Funds, co-chair

Naz Basit, AAUW Funds, co-chair

Anjali Chadha, AAUW Funds, co-chair

If You Shop at Amazon

Next time you make a purchase from Amazon, first go to our branch website, <http://mclean-va.aauw.net>, click on the Amazon link at the bottom of the home page and make your purchase. Amazon will give our branch up to a 10% rebate.

Price. Selection. Convenience.
amazon.com



Photo Gallery | November Branch Meeting on Human Trafficking



Ms. Deepa Patel, Certified Sex Offender Treatment Provider, Dr. Elizabeth Payne, Fairfax County Public Schools Coordinator of Health, Physical Education, and Family Life Education, and William Wolfe, President, Just Ask Trafficking Prevention Project.



Ms. Deepa Patel, Dr. Elizabeth Payne, William Wolfe, and Myrtle Hendricks Corrales.



Program VPs Myrtle Hendricks-Corrales and Carol Mournighan.



Our hosts from Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Lisa Richter, Jackie Cho, Pastor Kessinger, Marlon Yearwood, Terri Markwart and Mark Cronin.



Co-Presidents Betsy Schroeder and Aroona Borpujari.

AAUW Branch Funds Names Honored

The Allocations Committee recommended the following for **NAMES HONORED for 2017**:

- **Marge Degnon**—Book Sale Co-Chair
- **Carol Langelier**—Book Sale Co-Chair
- **Marsha McMullin**—Book Sale Co-Chair
- **Caroline Pickens**—Book Sale Co-Chair
- **Aroona Borpujari**—Outgoing Branch President
- **Betsy Schroeder**—Outgoing Branch President
- **Wen Yi**—Book Sale Support
- **Nan Finken**—Fairfax County Park Authority Contact
- **Barbara Nugent**—Fairfax County Park Authority, Park Services Director, Book Sale Support
- **Marlene Chivavibul**—STEMTASTICS
- **Allan Stypeck** of 2nd Story Books—Book Sale Support
- **McLean Copy**—Book Sale Support
- **Spring Hill Recreation Center**—Book Sale Support
- **SunTrust Bank, Vienna, Virginia**—Book Sale Support
- **Hannah Wolfe**, Langley High School Career Counselor—Book Sale Support (teen volunteers)
- **McLean Branch members, spouses, and friends** who supported the 2017 Used Book Sale

The AAUW Funds Named **Honorees** will be recognized at the **Branch May 2018 Dinner Meeting**.

Membership Update

On **November 4**, the McLean Area branch **supported the first Work Smart training on salary negotiation at Trinity University**. More than 30 recent graduates and guests participated. Facilitated by AAUW staff, this excellent training was very well received. Our Branch will ask other branches to offer **Work Smart to graduating seniors** in all Northern Virginia schools. **This is a major focus of National AAUW and McLean Branch wants to lead in this effort.**

Let's Carpool!



SHARE A CAR

Need a Ride?

If you need a ride to the monthly Branch meeting, feel free to contact Membership Co-Vice President, **Barbara Sipe**, **703-356-2385** or bfs4000@gmail.com.

Why We Give to AAUW Funds

By policy, our branch must give 50% of our book sale proceeds to AAUW Funds. A question that arises, especially among newer members, is, "What are AAUW Funds and why do we give to them?" **Branch member Nancy Richardson, who has 36 years of experience with our book sales** (serving many times as chair, as well as twice branch president), **recently replied to that question with as good an answer as we've ever read.** Here's Nancy's response:

Dear Virginia,

I may not be the best person to answer your question, but I have strong feelings when it comes to our funds allocation. When I first joined the branch, we chose to give 80% of our book sale net to AAUW's Educational Foundation. Not long thereafter, interest in local college scholarships arose. In response, the branch set aside money for these scholarships and began giving AAUW's Educational Foundation only 66%. As interest in the local scholarships continued to grow, the branch again responded, agreeing that at least 50% of our net will be used to support AAUW Funds (new name for Educational Foundation), with much of the rest designated for local giving.

Many members think local scholarships and awards provide more visible community outreach, give the branch more control over use of the money we earn, inspire young girls, and give women in need the financial support that enables them to return to college to complete their degrees.

Others point out that McLean Area Branch has contributed more than most at the national level. We've supported AAUW research into learning and have built multiple AAUW endowments that support, and will continue to support, post-graduate education for women. It's long been felt that AAUW's support for post-graduate education is a strong driver of systemic change because the women selected to receive this money are among the best and the brightest, women whose future work may well impact millions of people.

Another AAUW iron in the fire includes support for female college educators justifiably seeking but denied tenure, redress for discrimination, and justice in sexual harassment cases. Often women are not able to stand up alone against a college or university's money and power. Recently AAUW expanded this support to women in the work place. McLean Branch has regularly contributed funds for this work as well.

Most recently, AAUW launched a series of far-reaching projects aimed at young women, projects focusing on STEM education, landing a good job, negotiating fair pay, learning how to run for campus office, and more. What a boost for this population!

What I've written thus far may not cover all that AAUW Funds do, but what is certain is that we are a branch of AAUW, not an independent club. We subscribe to AAUW's mission, goals, and efforts to support women and girls. Without AAUW we'd simply be another gaggle of women, a small group with relatively small clout, and likely a group destined for the dust heap. Through its extensive network, trusted national reputation (especially on Capitol Hill), and multiple diverse efforts to support women and girls, AAUW gives us life, and a highly respected life at that.

Bottom line, let's continue to support the many talented women and girls who've come before our branch and wowed us with their determination and accomplishments, but let's never forget the true source of our widest reach and greatest success for women, AAUW.

Nancy

Inspiring Middle School Girls to Pursue STEM Careers

In partnership with Fairfax County Public Schools & NOVA Systemic Solutions
Presented by AAUW: Fairfax City, McLean Area, Springfield-Annandale & Vienna Area Branches



STEMtastics 2018

Saturday, March 10, 2018
NOVA – Annandale
8:00 AM – 12:15 PM

Volunteer opportunities are still available at **STEMtastics 2018** – a **career day event designed to inspire middle school girls (6th through 8th grade) in Fairfax County to pursue careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) fields.** Boys are also welcome to attend.

WHAT: For the fifth year, the McLean Area Branch is partnering with Fairfax City, Vienna Area, and Springfield-Annandale branches, as well as FCPS and Systemic Solutions at NOVA, to sponsor STEMtastics. **We have reformatted the program to accommodate more students and are expecting about 700 students and parents, compared to 500 in 2017. Your participation is more critical than ever.**

WHEN/WHERE: This year's event is scheduled for **Saturday morning, March 10, 2018, at NOVA – Annandale.**

VOLUNTEERS: More than 80 volunteers are needed on the day of the event. SignUp Genius describes almost 30 different assignments for which volunteers are needed at the event. **Assignments** include:

- serving as a **student workshop assistant in a classroom;**
- **helping with morning refreshments;**
- serving as a **theater usher;**
- **checking in students at registration using a smartphone app;**
- **greeting parent workshop presenters and checking them in**
- and much more.

Please **SAVE THE DATE OF MARCH 10** and EMAIL **Judy Page** ([judypage@gmail.com](mailto:judy@judypage@gmail.com)) if **you are willing to help** – you can also provide a preference for an assignment, if you have one. If you have already notified Judy of your willingness to help, you don't need to respond again.

Marlene Chivavibul, volunteer coordinator, **will be in touch with all the volunteers later in January with more details.**



Public Policy Update

AAUW's mission of advancing equity for women and girls includes opposition to all forms of discrimination and supports constitutional protection for the civil rights of all individuals.

AAUW Celebrates Women in Wartime and in Space

Without much recognition, **women played key roles during war time supporting military efforts way before they were admitted into the armed services.** In the early 1940s, women were vital to any number of wartime advances. Their presence was **crucial in intelligence and communications.** More than half of the American code breaking force was female, about 10,000 women. Most were college graduates who had been shut out of the graduate schools and excluded from math and engineering.

Women served in the **Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASP)** and flew thousands of noncombat missions during World War II. Considered civilians during the war, they were granted veteran status in 1977 and were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in 2009. Unfortunately, the U.S. Army revoked WASP members' rights to be buried in the Arlington National Cemetery with military honors.

One of the original WASPs was the mother-in-law of AAUW member Linda Harmon, who along with AAUW members from around the country, **sent thousands of messages** through the AAUW Action Network to their elected officials urging them to honor these amazing women by **allowing them burial rights at Arlington.** With the **additional support of Senators Barbara Mikulski and Joni Ernst, President Obama gave the WASP veterans the recognition** they deserve by signing the inurnment bill into law.

In 1966, the AAUW Achievement Award winner was **Dora Dougherty,** one of two women selected to test fly the B-29 Superfortress heavy bomber during World War II. AAUW Fellow **Judith Resnik** became the second American woman in space and died in the 1986 Challenger explosion. **Graciela Tiscareno-Sato,** an Air Force veteran, received the 1998 Career Development grant. The AAUW Achievement Award was given to **Mae Jemison,** the first African American woman in space. **Pam Melroy,** a 2014 AAUW Woman of Distinction, was a NASA astronaut, one of only two women to have commanded a space shuttle.

Women at Work – Know your Rights

In a recent issue of AAUW What We Do, sexual harassment, a form of sex discrimination that violates Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, was described as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. **Even with Title VII's protections, many people still face sexual harassment in their workplaces** that can include conduct that is verbal, physical or both, may be repeated, hostile or offensive, may be by a co-worker or supervisor. Either gender can be victim of sexual harassment, and a single severe incident may be sufficient to constitute a Title VII violation. **Title VII forbids employers from retaliating against the victim for filing a charge of harassment or speaking out against the harassment.** The victim may file a complaint with the **Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)** that will notify the employer of the claim, begin an investigation into the complaint, and may attempt to settle the complaint or eventually file a lawsuit in federal court.

Special Interest Groups

Current Events I The Current Events Group will meet **Tuesday, December 5, 9:00 am**, at the **Star Nut Gourmet, 1445 Laughlin Avenue, McLean**. All branch members are invited to attend and bring an article or web link to share and spark the discussion. RSVP to **Mary Lou Melley**, maryloumelley@gmail.com.

Morning Lit Group I The Morning Literature group will meet on **Friday, December 8, 9:30 am**, at the **McLean Governmental Center Conference Room, 1437 Balls Hill Road**, to discuss *The Bad Ass Librarian of Timbuktu*, by Joshua Hammer. Please bring your own coffee, tea, or water. Plenty of parking available in front of building. Contact **Betsy Reddaway**, obreddaway@verizon.net or 703-448-9195.

Bridge Group I The bridge group will meet on **Monday, December 11, from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm**, at **Marsha McMullin's, 204 W. Westmoreland Road, Falls Church, VA**. For more information and to sign up for this month's meeting, contact **Barbara Carr**, barbaralcarr@msn.com or 703-356-3127.

On the Town I All branch members are invited to experience local area museums, restaurants, and events **every second Wednesday** of each month. This month's On the Town will enjoy the holiday season on **Wednesday, December 13**, at Hillwood, the former residence of businesswoman, socialite, philanthropist and collector, Marjorie Merriweather Post. Nestled in the hills of northwest Washington, DC, Hillwood Estate, Museum and Gardens is a decorative arts museum known for its large collection that focuses on the House of Romanov, including Faberge eggs as well as 18th and 19th French art. The greenhouse has one of the country's finest orchid collections. The mansion, decorated for the holiday season, is located at 4155 Linnean Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20008. Since Metro is not nearby, we will travel in carpools and leave by 9:30 a.m. By Monday, December 11, Mary Lou Melley will send an email to all those who are attending to form carpools. Parking is free. Entry is a suggested donation of \$15, followed by a short film and a conducted tour at **11:30 a.m. Enjoy lunch at the Café**. RSVP to **Mary Lou Melley**, maryloumelley@gmail.com, or 703-536-6498 by Sunday, December 10.

Arena Stagers I The Arena Stagers group will attend **Pajama Game**, on **Sunday, December 17, at 7:30 pm**, at **Arena Stage**. **Carpools** will leave **McLean House at 6:00 pm**. For more information on tickets and attendance, contact **Elaine Lailas** at elailas@aol.com, 703-779-8679 or 305-281-5787.

Breakfast Group I The Breakfast Group will meet on **Tuesday, December 26, 9:00 am**, at the **McLean Family Restaurant, 1321 Chain Bridge Road, McLean**. RSVP to **Suzanne Watts**, 703-356-7926 or scwatts1@cox.net.

Connections I December Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5 Current Events Group, 9:00am, Star Nut Gourmet	6 Branch Board Meeting, noon-2:00 pm, McLean House	7	8 Morning Lit Group, 9:30 am, McLean Gov Center	9 Branch Meeting, Holiday Luncheon Noon, River Bend Gold and Country Club, Great Falls, VA
10	11 Bridge Group, 10:00 am-2:00 pm, Marsha McMullin's home	12	13 On the Town, 11:30am, Hillwood Estate	14	15	16
17 Arena Stagers, Pajama Game, meet at McLean House, 6:00 pm	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 Breakfast Group, 9:00 am, McLean Family Restaurant	27	28	29	30
31						

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

For membership information call

Sue Christie

703.241.5646

or

Barbara Sipe

703.356.2385

Do you have any AAUW McLean Branch news, updates or information you wish to share with our local community?

Please email your publicity materials no later than three weeks before you wish to have it posted in our local newspapers |

Cheryl Scott Williams (cherylswilliams@verizon.net)



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Branch Website | <http://mclean-va.aauw.net>

AAUW VA Website | <http://aauw-va.aauw.net>

AAUW Website | www.AAUW.org